## THE FIRST EXTENDED INTERVIEW WITH THE AMERICAN GOVERNOR GENERAL OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

ARPENTER CHATS WITH GEN-CRAL OTIS IN MANILA.





OSSIBILITIES of Corruption and How a Dishonest Governor Could Make a Fortune—Otis Could Make

GENERAL OTIS' DINING ROOM HIS STAFF AT THE TABLE

\$100,000 in Three Weeks-The Resources of the Country and the Possibilities in the Way of Railroads and Other Investments-The Question of Labor-General Otis Talks of the Press-Filipino Losses-A Description of Otis as a Worker and a Word About His Chief of Staff, General Schwan. 🚜 🦂 🦂

Manila, March 1.-I spent last evening with General Otis at his place in Malacan an, one of the most fashionable of the suburban streets of Manila. His residence is the house erected for the Spanish Gover nors General of the Philippines, a great two-story structure, with floors of Filipine mahogany with a polish like the top of a new piane, windows of opalescent syster shells and walls and cellings frescood and painted with flowers, cupids and heathen gods. The ceilings are very high, the rooms and halls large and airy, and at night, when the tinsel and cheapness which characterizes parts of the building are softened by the rays of the electric light, the palacis really imposing. It has extensive grounds filled with tropical plants and trees, and the air about it is saturated with the sweet perfume of orange blossoms. There are soldiers on guard at almost every block of the streets that lead to it. My carriage was stopped at the gate, and it was only upon saying that I had a special appointment with the General that I was permitted to pass in on foot. I found more sentries walking up and down under the porte cochere, and I waited in the hall until an orderly took up my card and returned with the answer that the Military Governor would see me.

I found General Otis in his workshop at office and bedroom combined. It had evidently been used as a parlor or music room in the days of the Spandards, for its decorations are Moorish and seem quite out of place with its present practical, hard-working surroundings, Large writing desks have taken the place of the plane, and a plain brass bedstead with a mosquito netting attachment has ousted the divans, hast night the desks were littered with manuscripts decuments and black books containing translations of the Spanish concessions to to the cable, street car, telephones and electric lights of Manila, which the General had brought bome to study. He pushed clean up the country these aside and for two hours chatted freely with me about the situation and the conditions now prevailing in the Philippines. Pen Pleture of General Otis.

Before I report our conversation let n show you General Oris as he appears a first sight. His pictures in the newspapers do not fairly present him. As photo graphed he seems to be a tall, portly man, with a big head and luxuriant side whiskers. The real General Otis does not weigh more than 150 pounds. He stands about my feet eight inches in his stockings and is slender in build. His head is not at all. large or imposing. The face would be small were it not for the whiskers, which are of silver gray mixed with black, well covering the hollows of the cheeks and extending below the jaw a half tinger's length. He has an overlanging gray mustache, from gray with the saidters. There would be less hair and very heavy black cyclicows. His straight nose and a rather determined mouth. He was dressed yesterday in a who, if you are an American, will claim the plain business suit, lacking the vest, and he looked more like an ordinary business man | right to rob or kill you under the pretext than a General in command of one of the world's greatest armies, and the absolute ruler of a country 1,000 miles long, inhabited by 8,000,000 as turbulent people as now resistance has slopped, as you say, why

exist outside of South Africa. of service. He has been in the ranks ever | them? This would seen but un end to their since the beginning of the Civil War, when | business, would it not?"

Other head near the close on the way wound would not permit him to live in th east, and he accepted an offer of service i he tegular urfay upon the frontier. There General here in May, 1888. During our conversation t asked him how he came to be sent to the Philippones. He replied that ng any say in the matter, and that he was only here because he had been ordered to

Later on I asked him if he were satisfied

"I can't use that I am for I am account that the Islands should be in a much better I tives. This is especially so with the Tagarput down the insurportion at for as any the condition of the Philippines is now as orfe as it has been during the past generation. In Mindanao, the Spantards did not dare to go outside the limits of their arms: tweets. They were always in trouble with t be natives, and in many places had their

iare to step for fear of being shot by their sentries. Now our troops are moving about without arms outside the posts, and many expeditions have been taken into the mounteen robber hands in the mountains which have preyed upon the people. The country ms never been really sufed.

"Iso you think you can make it so, Gen-"Yes, in time, but we must keep on destroying the bandits wherever we find them. Many of the insurrectes have joined such bands and it will take some months yet to i

Will Yeed Soldiers for Years.

"This will, I suppose, necessitate the keeping of a large force here on the Islands, even after peace has been established, will

many theops as we have now for at least a year, and perhaps longer. We shall have to garrison the most of the towns and show the people that we intend to protect them. After a year or so when the conditions have become settled, the forces can be greatly reduced."

travel alone throughout the Philippines? Do | Blied. you consider it safe I' I asked.

No. I do not?" said General Ous. don't think Americans should go into the interior unless they are in parties or are danger, perhaps, for Englishmen, but in eyes are small, bright and black. He has a the mountains no one is safe. There is no good forchead, a trifle narrow, perhaps, a telling when you may be attacked by a hand of handlits or seculled insurrected

"But General," said I, "if the organized General this's entire tack of tellitary also treat these people as teldess and murderers. is the more striking considering his length | and lung or shoot them when you take

at twenty-one he left the practice of the latt twould also put an end to the themselves."

The process profile are accusated to the process profile are accusated to the first are they at all fit to govern the first are the practice of the latt twould also put an end to the themselves."

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OPERATIONS AROUND MANUA to we was

General Otis on the Situation.

"As to the robbors," continued the Goeral, "and in this I include the insurrectu-

REAR ADMIRAL LOUIS KEMPTY

IN COMMAND OF THE NAVAL

The Antives as American Soldiers. "If that is the case they would find the pay," said I. "Why not use them as -

shers? England has a native army in his Dime in the future," said General Oils, "I'm at present we dare not trust any large nursbet of them in boar ranks. We have about the native scouts with our troops at Vigan

seem to care for is their pay. They are diable to be treacherous, how yer, and we "What classes of the people are they who are carrying on the war? Do the better

classes really want to continue the strug-

"The war," replied the General, "has been way be accomply be out. We have true largely fomented by the professingal politic. Here here in the custom leaves and else claus, follows like Aguinuldo and others; whereand found the trey have excepted who expected to make fortunes out of the cally cheated the Government and pocketed agitation. The richer Filipines, and, in fact, the proceeds I had not be taken a father almost all of the property owners are fired and you of a good tamily in the capteras. almost all of the property owners are tire; and the same to be some of the customs that the struggle. They don't want the becaute same of the customs that the struggle. Americans to leave them to the mercy of lettlest of course I seem found that the their own people. They have begged us to, father and son were in collusion, and that stay, saving that if we go the result will | they were a nature but false unsuffects and be amurchy, ending in one or more of the thereby meeting thousands of dollars. I powers of Europe stepping in and taking infishersed there at con-

really believe that they could successfully . General one material of dent think we

General Otis. "They thought they could level, if the thursd States organize a

Aut Vit to Govern Themselves

"What do you think of these people as wanted no use my office for my own profit. prospective high-grade American citizens. These people are accustomed to bribery. Too Soon for Railways and Other In-

you would grant us more rights if we fought | They cannot realize that men may be here-

state, and that state, I think, will soon los. Their catrictism is of a noch thank | will be what concerns on him grade out. I think the military seasonment should come. I will say, however, that we have a nature. They are in the war only for what | reconstruction | will be what concerns the war of the what come is the war of the what concerns the war of the war of the what concerns the war of organized resistance is concerned, and that get anything from us they will prove upon the actions that will prove upon the actions that will govern,

possession of the islands. This is the feet. "We have to keep a slow watch on our ing of many Pilipines who have taken part | customs officials here. (continued General | papers, but he began to attack the United in the insurrection. Makini told me that the for w. should be rabbel tribit and | States Government, and I had to stop him." this was his view, and when I asked why lieft, for we have notice tables employed "How about Americans, attempting to in that case he had been fighting us he re- The result of our wat hindress is that the conteme receipts to new areater in pre-

An Curpet Buggers Wanted.

Thought the Americans Would Give How would a civil government of America to settle. Archbishop Chappelle thinks he we will form trusts and monopolize all the \*\*Pot. General," said I, "did the Filipmos all said I and state-men do for the islands, General will be able to arrange it so that they will good things of the islands. They are afraid esist us" want the American contribute of state-smap, and in many places they will not be per-"Yes, I think some of them did." replied as you call turn for a long time you if mitted to some back to their churches "Then you think one tire us out. Some think this even now, and evel service for the Philippines it should like. Just now they are clamating to have asked. some come to me and beg me to not allow be one carefully conser, well paid and not their catechism recited daily in the public the government to take the soldiers away affected to any extent to home politics, schools. I have told them I could not perfrom the country. I tell them they need the should be taken to get honest men, but that, and that if parents want their have no fear of that, at least not as long for the dishonest of half would have great children to have religious instruction they i never been an expansionist, and I doubt as the war lasts, and that when the Americ opportunities for frond of all kinds. You must get it outside the school supported whether I ever will be one in the ordinary cans make war they may rely upon it that cannot coincide the possibilities the office by the Covernment. We have had a fass sense of the word but the islands have they will all stick teacher until they have colds of the past bere had in the way of with them as to the marriage question, and been forced upon as and we must go ahead thing their peckets. Why I could make there will also be considerable trouble as and do our best for them." species within the next three weeks if I to titles and church property."

A Word About the Prizes.

er Againston a man of Jores or satisfations.

must again antigement and profit."

A Military Government Vecessory.

"How about the friers," I asked s able to stay and hold their property, the Filipinos will be degraded as laborers. but many of the Filipines do not like them. | They do not trust us yet, but in time this

vestments.

Should Be Controlled-Natives as American Soldiers-The Character of the People-Why They Are Not Fit to Govern Themselves-An Estimate of Aguinaldo by the Man Who Is Fighting Him-Why the Military Rule Should Be Continued.

Years to Come-The Filipino Bandits and How They

CCORDING to the American Commander, the Strug-

gle Is Over, but a Big Army Needed for Two

eral citis if he thought there were many to be sent to the papers." opportunities here for our capitalists. He replied that the resources of the country were enermous, and that there would undountedly be many chances for money making as soon as the country was

perfectly quiet. "At present," said he, "we need the army to keep peace and put down the insurgents, and we cannot spare troops to protect American enterprises, such as the building of carlroads. There is no doubt, however that there are many places where of times have already been surveyed, notably some about Laguna de Bay and into the Southern and Eastern Provinces. There are men new in Washington trying to get encessions for constructing such roads.

"Thea there are other projects contemplated which will be carried out later on Some things are hampered by the Spanish concessions, such as the cable and other matters, but they will be satisfactorily set-

Great Chances for Money Makers.

"As to the general outlook for the developinion of the Philippines along profitable lines. I think it is good and that there will be many apportunities for moneymaking here in the future. The country is beyond conception rich and much of it has hardly you know the right to my prices, it can virgin sail, there are deposits of iron, gold, They have been trived that I the make ment cost if or it come as pound by copper and coal, and the coal deposits are said to be extensive and of good quality. "When you have thereighly pacified the The mountains are full of minerals and here will they stay parified or will we they are practically unprospected. Agriany continual probabious, as in the South | culturally there is no better soil anywhere than in most parts of these islands. The hand will support many times its present permiation

> The Question of Labor. "How about labor, General? It is said the

Fillpino will not work?" "I think that is a mistake." replied General Oris. "These people have never had a leaves for the day. He has an hour or so iards gave them about \$6 in silver a month. about is cents gold a day, and many of the | billiards after supper for exercise, but outvery well. I believe we have already proved possessed by the demon of perpetual work that the Filipines can do the work of the country and that they will do it if they are to know everything, and, I am told, there fairly paid. At first they could not understand why we did not withhold a portion of the wages for ourselves." "Do you think they will ever become

friendly to the Americans?" "Yes," replied General Otis, "when through us they see the times becoming good, themselves growing prosperous and their country rich. Many of them are afrabl-

"Then you think our occupation of the Philippines a good thing, General?" I

have acquired them in such a way that it is impossible for us to give them up. I have

The Press Correspondents.

"How about your trouble with the newspaper correspondents? They have elaimed doubt not they both speak the fruth. surprised that they are not asked to do so. The conversation here turned to the pos- that you have withheld the news of the

similities of the Islands, and I asked Gen- | war and have not allowed the whole truth

At this question the General's face darkened and I saw that I was on delicate ground. He answered, however, saying: "I have tried to have the truth sent he and have interfered with the correspon ents as little as possible."

"How about the charge that you have increased the numbers of the Filipino dead?" "That is not true," was the reply. 'I have always been conservative in my reports of our engagements, and have usually touch can be built at a profit. A number | ports of the regagements, and have usually touch can be built at a profit. A number | reduced the figures to be on the safe side. I have given orders to the officers that they must send out reliable men to count the dead after every engagement, and have done all I could to arrive at the exact

> With this the interview closed and the General went back to his papers.

here quite a difference of opinion among the civilians and also among the officers of the army. He has strong friends and numerous critics. Some of the Generals say privately that they think the war could be settled with one or two short dashing campaigns, while others, closer, perhaps, in the counsels of the auministration, believe that the present policy is the only one that will

result in permanent peace. I find no question, however, as to General Otis's honesty of purpose and his fidelity to his duties. He is the hardest worked manin the army. He rises at 5:30 every morning, and by 7:3 has finished his breakfast and driven to the pulace in the waited city.

two miles away. Here he works steadily till 12:30, when her drives home for bunch, returning before a o'clock to his desk. He keeps at it stom then on until 6 and always takes a stack of papers and documents home when he chance to work for good wages. They have | for dinner, and then works until It and never been paid for their work. The Span- i often until midnight. Within the past few weeks he has been playing a game or so of wages. Since we came the cost of labor | tion. He never drives out for pleasure. has risen. The men are receiving the full calls upon nobody and does not attend wages agreed upon, and they are working | either public or private functions. He is and is a very fiend for details. He wants are precious few things which go on that he does not know.

During my interview I referred to the charge made that he devoted too much of ils strength to little things. He replied hat such knowledge was necessary to the openess and economy of his administration, nd that he had to know all in order to act promptly and in the right way.

At the same time it is evident that he sould handle the big things more easily if he deveted foreself entirely to them and left the energing out of his plans to his subordinates. He has good men about him, His right hand and chief of staff is General Theodore Schwan, one of the ablest and bravest of the officers of our army, who has just made a new record for himself by his dashing campaign through that hotbed of the insurrectos, the most dangerous provinces of Southern Luzon, General he thoroughly approves of his policy. The two men are in some ways much alike. Both say they would rather be fighting in the field than at work here in Manila, and from what is known of their characters, I

FRANK G. CARPENTER.



